



Boley Centers Ink

Fall, 2009

Royal Ball to Benefit Boley

St. Petersburg's Royal Family of 51 Queens and 365 Princesses will present the 52nd Anniversary Queen of Hearts Ball on February 27, 2010 at the St. Petersburg Hilton. Proceeds from this year's ball will benefit Boley Centers, Inc. and the Museum of Fine Arts.

The Queen of Hearts, Inc. was founded over 50 years ago with the dual purpose of honoring women's volunteerism and supporting local charities within the community. Each year six women are selected from Pinellas County as Princesses to the Queen's Royal Court. These outstanding women are nominated by local community organizations in appreciation of their commitment and service to the community. The Queen is then selected from past courts. Over one million dollars has been raised from the ball, the organization's sole fund raiser, and used to support local charitable organizations.

The ball includes dinner, dancing, live & silent auctions, a cash bar and valet parking. Attire is black tie. Tickets are \$100 each and numerous sponsorship packages are available. For more information, please call this year's Chairman, Diane Fair at (727) 289-4931.

New Funding Awards

•Boley Centers has received a \$480,000 grant from the State of Florida's Department of Homeless Housing Assistance for the development of Broadwater Place Apartments. Construction is forecast for spring, 2010 and will provide 12 one bedroom units of permanent supported housing for individuals who have mental illnesses and are chronically homeless.

•The Department of Veterans Affairs has awarded Boley Centers with funding to renovate Covert Apartments and provide 13 transitional beds for Veterans who are homeless. In addition to the renovation, the grant will provide operational funding for case management and living skills instruction.

**SAVE
THE DATE!**

*Boley Centers'
5th Annual Golf
Tournament
April 16, 2010*

Boley Angels Wine & Cheese

The Boley Angels recently held their annual Wine & Cheese Membership event at the St. Petersburg home of Richard & Diane Winning. A special thank you to the Winnings for opening their lovely home, to Margie Decker for underwriting some of the expenses and to Sharon Clayton and Tracey Keim (and all of the contributing Angels) for organizing such a great evening!



We Want Your Address

With everything going green, we are trying to do our part by significantly cutting down on our paper usage. Our last newsletter announced this effort and we were pleased with the number of people who joined our list of e-mail recipients. If you are reading this newsletter in print and have an e-mail address, please send us your address so that we can add you to our list!

It is our goal to deliver many of our publications, invitations and announcements via e-mail. Your address will only be used by Boley Centers to receive material that would have otherwise been sent through the U.S. Postal Service and will never be distributed or sold to any other entity. If you have questions or concerns, feel free to contact Kathryn Juarez at (727) 821-4819 x 5724. You may submit your e-mail address to us at boleyink@boleycenters.org so that your name can be added.

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Mission, Vision and Values

Boley Centers' **Mission** is to enrich the lives of people in recovery by providing the highest quality treatment, rehabilitation, employment and housing services.

Boley Centers' **Vision** is to set the standard as an innovative leader for the services we provide.

Boley Centers **Values** respect, trust, and ethics in all our relationships.

Funding

Boley Centers is funded in part under agreements with the Agency for Health Care Administration, Bessie Boley Foundation, Boley Angels, Central Florida Behavioral Health Network, City of St. Petersburg, City of Tampa, Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta, Florida Department of Children & Families, Florida Department of Education, Florida Department of Elder Affairs, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Health Partners, Georgia Institute of Technology, Pinellas County, Pinellas County Coalition for the Homeless, Pinellas County Department of Justice & Consumer Services, St. Anthony's Health Care, Syracuse University, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), U.S. Department of Transportation and Westat Research Corporation.

Support Crew Gives Back!



Pictured Top from left: Richard Bollman, Dennis Pearson, Ray Scott, Mike Veeder. Bottom from left: Rawn Godwin, Paul Sibley, Jeffrey Dancil, Freddy Villarreal.

Several years ago Boley Centers' Support Services Manager Mike Veeder encouraged his staff to put a few dollars from each of their paychecks into a pot each pay period. What has resulted has been annual acts of extreme kindness.

For the past two years, Mike and his crew of seven guys have gone down to the Ronald McDonald House at

All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg to cook a full meal for the residents. There is a second house on campus this year so they cooked double the food, serving 150 people! With the help of several of the wives, the group of men shopped for the food, prepared it (four fried turkeys with all of the fixings!), served and did all of the clean-up. Why do they do it? Simply put, because it makes them feel good to help those in need.

Hats off to the Support Services Team which includes - Richard Bollman, Jeffrey Dancil, Rawn Godwin, Dennis Pearson, Ray Scott, Paul Sibley, Mike Veeder and Freddy Villarreal. They set the example for all of us!

Annual Wellness Fair



For the second year in a row, Boley Centers' staff and consumers organized and conducted a Health and Wellness Fair at the Mary R. Koenig Center. The theme of this year's half-day event was mental, physical, social and spiritual wellness. The day included - The Boley Day Spa (massage therapy, aroma therapy, etc.); Relaxation and Meditation; information and resources on chronic health conditions such as

diabetes, high blood pressure, sickle cell, obesity and heart health; making your own herbal tea bags; Qigong; aroma therapy; fire safety; pet safety and therapy information and nutritious smoothies, snacks and lunch. Garden walks were conducted and live entertainment was played throughout the day.

The event also included a logo contest among Boley Centers' residential facilities. Fourteen entries were received and the winning logo - submitted by Wild Acres Group Home - is shown here. A special thank you to all of the committee members which included - Heather Chermak, Tina Coscarelli, Dianne Allen, Lili Kennedy, Pat Robinson, Lisa Scarzafava, Junior Bentham, Christine Pickens, Angela Godwin, Mike Veeder, Mary Lagatutta, Rae H., Lori J, Pat A., Keith E and the countless volunteers!

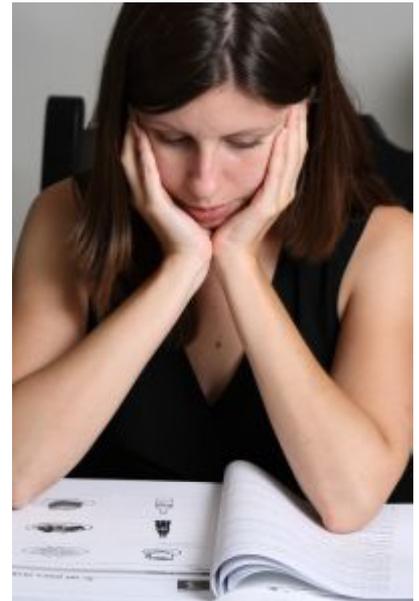


Massage Therapist Lori Moulder provides a mini massage at the Wellness Fair.



Program Spotlight: Supported Education Program

Boley Centers began offering a Supported Education Program in 2008 as a component of its Life Enhancement Activity Program (LEAP). This is an evidence-based psychiatric rehabilitation practice designed to improve access to, and increase retention in, a post-secondary environment for people who have been diagnosed with major mental illnesses.



Supported Education Coordinator Denise Gibbons runs the program which offers a broad range of individualized, flexible supports and resources to meet the unique needs of each person enrolled. By furthering one's education, there is a shift from an individual's perceived identity as a consumer of mental health services to a student aiming to gain further education. A total of 43 men and women have been served by the program with 10 of them working toward completing the requirements for admission to Pinellas Technical Education Centers and 18 of them enrolled in higher education classes. In addition to the distinct benefit of potential career/personal growth, research has shown that students experience increased self-esteem, hope and quality of life as well as a decrease in symptoms and a dramatic reduction in the number of psychiatric hospitalizations.

Jesse's Recovery & Rehabilitation



Jesse knows what it is like to be Baker Acted against his will. He knows what it feels like to be awake for nights on end while trying to juggle school, work and a relationship. Since the age of 18, Jesse has been in and out of the hospital and coping with bouts of mania as a result of his mental illness – Bipolar Disorder with psychotic features. Like other illnesses, his has impacted his life and affected those around him, causing him at one point to lose his car, his job and his optimism.

18, Jesse should have been enjoying his transition into adulthood, going to college and working toward his dreams for the future. Instead he was struggling to make ends meet while trying to keep his illness under control. With the help of Boley Centers staff, he was able to access the appropriate services – psychiatric care, medication management, day treatment, housing and disability benefits. He moved into the Oaks Apartments which is a transitional housing program where residents are provided with

skills development and support to prepare to reintegrate in the community and maintain more permanent housing of their choice. He stayed there for 18 months, became very physically active, often making the four-mile round trip walk to day treatment and back, went back to college to earn his Associate's degree and started to regain some control over his life. From there Jesse moved into a private apartment, obtained a part-time job at Target and completed his Bachelor's degree in Exercise Science from St. Petersburg College.

When Jesse left the protected environment of the Oaks, he started receiving services from the FACT Team at Boley Centers. FACT is an acronym for Florida Assertive Community Treatment. FACT is a multi-disciplinary treatment team made up of registered nurses, mental health counselors, social workers, vocational specialists, recovery coaches and a psychiatrist. The team works closely with people who have been severely affected by mental illness, resulting in frequent or prolonged hospitalization or incarceration. Services are provided seven days a week in each person's living, learning or working environment. The FACT Team's objective is to provide any and all rehabilitation services, treatment and support necessary to assist individuals in reaching their individual recovery goals.

Individuals like Jesse are the reason FACT Teams exist. Since the services are provided outside of a traditional hospital setting, people are able to receive intensive care and close monitoring while maintaining other aspects of their lives. In Jesse's case, he was able to finish his undergraduate degree – a milestone that moved him one step closer to his lifelong dream of becoming a doctor of Chiropractic Medicine.

Now at the age of 30, Jesse has entered into chiropractic school just outside of Atlanta, Georgia. With the help of the staff at Boley Centers, he has been setup with appropriate services to help him manage his medication, receive psychiatric treatment and maintain his illness. His tenacity, ambition and the community-based treatment he received at Boley Centers have been a winning formula to help Jesse to move one step closer to his dreams.

Read more stories like Jesse's at www.boleycenters.org and look for Bill's story in the next issue!

Upcoming Agency Events

BOLEY CENTERS' 27TH ANNUAL

Jingle Bell Run

*Register on-line or stop by any one of
our area registration sites!
Please call (727) 821-4819 x 5200
or visit www.boleycenters.org for
more information.*

Boley Centers' Annual Thanksgiving Feast

November 25, 2009

Mary R. Koenig Center

Boley Angels' Annual Christmas Brunch

December 9, 2009

St. Petersburg Yacht Club

Boley Centers' 27th Annual Jingle Bell Run

December 9, 2009

St. Petersburg Pier

2010 = 40 years of Boley Centers!

For more information on these events, please
call (727) 821-4819 or visit www.boleycenters.org.

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